

12/31/01  
JC961 U.S. PTO  
AGOVINO  
BERNARD E. ALLEN  
ROBERT M. BAIN  
JAMES J. BARTA, JR.  
G. HARLEY BLOSSER  
JOHN M. BODENHAUSEN  
RICHARD L. BRIDGE  
SARAH J. CHICKOS  
J. BENNETT CLARK  
LINDSAY E. COHEN  
JENNIFER E. COOK  
DAVID E. CRAWFORD, JR.  
JAMES E. DAVIS  
KATHRYN J. DOTY  
ROBERT M. EVANS, JR.  
PATRICIA K. FITZSIMMONS  
PAUL I.J. FLEISCHUT  
MICHAEL E. GODAR  
CHRISTOPHER M. GOFF  
DAVID W. HARLAN  
JAMES D. HARPER  
EDWARD J. HEJLEK  
DAVID L. HOWARD

01-08-02

A

SENNIGER, POWERS, LEAVITT & ROEDEL  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

ONE METROPOLITAN SQUARE  
16TH FLOOR  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63102  
314-231-5400

FACSIMILE 314-231-4342  
<http://www.senniger.com>

PATENTS, TRADEMARKS, COPYRIGHTS  
AND RELATED MATTERS

OF COUNSEL  
IRVING POWERS  
DONALD G. LEAVITT  
RICHARD G. HEYWOOD

STUART N. SENNIGER  
(1921-1997)

December 31, 2001

UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

J1046 U.S. PTO  
10/039238  
12/31/01

Attorney Docket Number: KCC 4809 (K.C. No. 16,733)  
First Named Inventor: Beitz, et al.  
Title: USABLE SPLICE FOR A STABILIZED ABSORBENT AND METHOD FOR  
MAKING THE SPLICE  
Express Mail Label Number: EL 890730855 US

TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application  
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

1. ☐ Fee Transmittal Form  
(original and duplicate)
2. ☐ Applicant claims small entity status
3. ☒ Specification [Total Pages 26]
4. ☒ Drawings [Total Sheets 6]
5. Oath or Declaration [Total Pages 4]
  - a. ☐ Newly executed (original or copy)  
☒ New (unexecuted)
  - b. ☐ Copy from a prior application  
(for continuation/divisional with  
Box 19 completed)
    - i. ☐ DELETION OF INVENTOR(s)  
Signed statement attached  
deleting inventor(s) named  
in prior application.

6. ☐ Incorporation By Reference  
(useable if Box 5b is marked)  
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.
7. ☒ Application Data Sheet
8. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)
9. ☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)
- a. ☐ Computer Readable Form
  - b. ☐ Specification Sequence Listing on:
    - i. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
    - ii. ☐ paper
  - c. ☐ Statements verifying identity of above copies

**ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS**

10. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
11. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement ☐ Power of Attorney
12. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
13. ☐ IDS with PTO-1449 ☐ Copies of IDS Citations
14. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
15. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard
16. ☐ Request and Certification for Non-Publication. Form PTO/SB/35 is attached.
17. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) if foreign priority is claimed
18. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**IF A CONTINUING APPLICATION, CHECK APPROPRIATE  
BOXES AND SUPPLY THE REQUISITE INFORMATION**

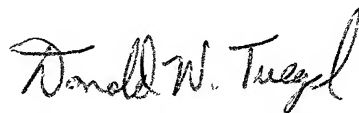
19. ☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-Part  
of prior application No.: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Complete Application based on provisional Application  
No. \_\_\_\_\_

Prior application information: Examiner:  
Group Art Unit:

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

20. Correspondence Address: Customer Number 321  
Attention: Donald W. Tuegel

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald W. Tuegel". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Donald W. Tuegel, Reg. No. 45,424

DWT/dss